

January, investigate now, holding hearings before Judiciary, Homeland Security, Armed Services, and International Relations. It is imperative that we know the truth and that we respond to the truth and that we act on the truth.

#### GOOD ECONOMIC NEWS

(Mr. SHUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute our steadily growing economy. Sometimes it is hard to remember how the intellectual fortunes of free enterprise have fallen under high taxes and government intrusion. Now that the Bush tax cuts have started to kick in and boost the economy, we see again that job growth has remained strong and in May we gained jobs. The American people are recognizing the positive leadership of George W. Bush and the Republican Congress.

Let us look at the facts: job seekers in America are getting good news and, most importantly, jobs. There were 248,000 jobs created in May. That means more than 900,000 jobs created over the last 3 months alone. Today the unemployment rate is down to 5.6 percent, lower than the average unemployment rate of the last 3 decades. America's families are seeing the change in their kitchen-table finances. Homeownership has risen to the highest level ever and real disposable income is up to an annual average rate of 3.9 percent. Finally, our business owners are benefiting. Real business investment in equipment and software is up to an annual rate of 14 percent.

This is an economics package that puts people first. The President and the Republicans in Congress will continue to knock down the barriers of high taxes and government red tape. By removing those barriers, we see the true entrepreneurial spirit of the American people and with that spirit so grows our economy.

#### COMPLAINT FILED WITH ETHICS COMMITTEE

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, when we as Members of Congress choose to look the other way at wrongdoing, when the agreed-upon standards of ethics of this body are seriously violated and no one makes a peep, the credibility of this institution is seriously damaged.

One of my colleagues has filed a complaint with the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, the Ethics Committee. He has raised serious questions about Majority Leader TOM DELAY's conduct, questions related to bribery, extortion, fraud, money laundering, and abuse of power. Some Republicans have tried to dismiss this

complaint as mere partisan politics rather than respond to the substance of the charges. The gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) threatened that as a result of this complaint from now on it is a matter of, quote, you kill my dog, I'll kill your cat.

This House has a duty to investigate wrongdoing, and we should do it immediately and seriously; and we should do it without killing dogs or cats.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILCHREST). Neither the content of an ethics complaint nor the fact of its filing may be debated on the floor until such time as it may become the question pending before the House.

#### A GREAT DAY FOR TENNESSEANS

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, this is a great day for the people of Tennessee. It is also a great day for the people of Texas and Washington State and Florida, Wyoming, Nevada, and South Dakota because today we are going to pass the American Jobs Creation Act in this House. In that bill, there is a provision that restores the deductibility of sales tax to our Federal income tax filing. For those of us in States that do not have a State income tax, deducting that sales tax is important. For our 5 million Tennesseans, this is a great day.

Mr. Speaker, I started my fight for tax fairness when I was a member of the Tennessee State Senate, and I have continued that upon coming here to Congress. I want to thank Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Majority Leader TOM DELAY, and Chairman BILL THOMAS for their leadership and their outstanding work on this issue of tax fairness.

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This is an enormous step forward. It is one that we have waited for since 1986. It is a great day for Tennesseans. I thank them for their leadership.

#### OIL COMPANY PROFITS

(Mr. MCDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, at the President's direction the Vice President presided over secret meetings with big oil, dirty coal, and a legion of industry lobbyists.

In secret they wrote an energy policy that has turned this country into a panhandler, begging for more oil. Motorists in downtown Seattle will pay an extra quarter of a billion dollars, that is billion, in just the next 90 days be-

cause of the increase in the price of a gallon of gasoline. The administration will blame it all on the war. The price of gasoline is over \$2 a gallon and the price in Iraq is 5 cents a gallon.

Yes, Mr. President, it is war all right. It is war that the oil companies are waging against the American people with the knowledge and consent and assistance of the administration. Oil company profits are up over 300 percent for one company, 200 percent for another. We are waging a war all right. It is a war to get America out of the hands of pricing, special interests and back into the hands of the American people. We want our country back. November 2 is coming, Mr. Bush.

#### COMMENDING DELTA AIRLINES

(Mr. ISAKSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, 75 years ago today in 1929 Delta Airlines flew its first six-passenger aircraft from Monroe, Louisiana to Dallas, Texas, inaugurating a great company and a great contributor to the United States of America.

Begun as a crop dusting company in the Mississippi Delta, Delta Airlines has grown to a worldwide company, employing 60,000 people, 30,000 of them in my home State of Georgia and our great City of Atlanta.

I am pleased to rise today and commend Delta Airlines on the celebration of its 75th anniversary and to commend them for the contribution they have made to the travel of the United States of America and its citizens and to business enterprise, travel, and tourism around the world.

#### SALUTING SONIA SCHREIBER WEITZ

(Mr. TIERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today on June 17, 2004, the Holocaust Center of Boston North, Inc., located in Peabody, Massachusetts, and dedicated to the study of the Holocaust, Genocides, and Human Rights, will honor my constituent Sonia Schreiber Weitz with the Center's first Social Justice and Human Rights Award.

A Holocaust survivor who experienced the torture and degradation of five Nazi concentration camps and Hitler's Death March, Sonia Weitz has devoted her life to educating young people to the dangers of bystander behavior, the nature of hatred and power of one individual to create positive change. An accomplished author and poet, she is committed to fighting for human rights and sharing her experiences during the Holocaust with audiences of all ages.

Born in Krakow, Poland in 1928, young Sonia attended public schools